GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:17
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2006
COTTON PRODUCTION
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Cotton Advisory Board lowered the country's cotton crop for the current season 2005-06 (Oct.-Sept.) against the previous season's estimated crop;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the main reasons for the same;

(c) The names of the cotton producing States according to Cotton advisory Board which will have less cotton out put; and

(d) The steps taken / proposed to be taken to increase the cotton output in cotton producing States?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 17 FOR ANSWER ON 17.02.2006.

(a) & (b) No. please. The Cotton Advisory Board in its first meeting held on 7.12.2005 for the cotton season 2005-06 has estimated the cotton production at 242.50 lakh bales (inclusive of 12.0 lakh bales of loose cotton) which is almost the same to that of estimate of 243.00 lakh bales of previous year 2004-05.

(c)The cotton production in the States of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Haryana is some what affected during the current cotton season 2005-06 as compared to the previous year 2004-05 as the area has also decreased in these States.

(d)The Government of India has consistently been adopting several measure for improving the quality, productivity and production of cotton in the country as listed below:

(i) Centrally sponsored Intensive Cotton Development Programme

(ii) Research & Developmental activities through various State Departments of Agriculture and State Agricultural Universities etc.

(iii) Technology Mission on Cotton - to improve the quality of cotton, increase the per hectare productivity, increase the income of cotton growers by reducing the cost of cultivation

(iv) Integrated Cotton Cultivation

(v) Introduction of Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) Cotton